



GP1649
#3
PATENT
PHI 1248
P04359US0

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:
SERIAL NO:
FILED:
TITLE:

WEBER, Gerhard P.
09/490,394

ART UNIT: 1649

EXAMINER:

January 24, 2000
HYBRID MAIZE PLANT & SEED 39W54

MAR 15 2000

TECH CENTER 1800/2300

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Applicant directs the Examiner's attention to the following patents and/or other documents which may be material to the examination of this application. The Examiner is urged to consider these documents and make them of record in this application. This submission is not intended to constitute an admission of any kind, and in particular is not an admission that any patent, or other document referred to herein constitutes a printed publication or is otherwise properly citable as prior art with respect to this application. No representation is made that a search has been conducted or that no more material information than that cited herein exists. Accordingly, this submission is not intended to take the place of the Examiner's own independent search of the art.

A list of the patents and/or other documents is set forth on the attached Form(s) PTO-1449.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this document and the documents referred to as enclosed therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 8 day of March, 2000.

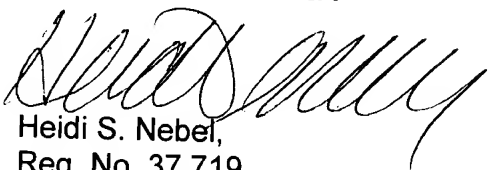
Heidi S. Nebel

A copy of each of these documents or translations or abstract as appropriate,
is attached or will be forwarded as soon as it becomes available.



Respectfully submitted,
GERHARD P. WEBER

by:


Heidi S. Nebel,
Reg. No. 37,719
ZARLEY, McKEE, THOMTE, VOORHEES
& SEASE
ATTORNEYS OF RECORD

801 Grand - Suite 3200
Des Moines, Iowa 50309-2721
515-288-3667 - pw

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